

GREENBELT News Review

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

February 16, 2012

City Council Hears Discussion On Changes in School Budget

by James Giese

Two new changes in how county schools will operate were explained to Greenbelt City Councilmembers by members of the Prince George's County Board of Education and school administrative staff at the January 30 city council stakeholder meeting. First, student-based budgeting distributes educational funds to various schools based on student needs and characteristics. This process is intended to give individual school principals greater autonomy on how to use the allocated funds for the school.

The other, called secondary school reform, would allow students to enroll in specialized academies at one of several nearby high schools as well as to make other changes to raise educational expectations, expand opportunities and enhance support to teachers and students.

Attending this worksession were five members of the Board

of Education: Verjeane Jacobs, Chair; Peggy Higgins, Vice-Chair representing District 2 which includes Greenbelt; Rosalind Johnson, District 1 (who represented Greenbelt prior to the last redistricting); Patricia Eubanks, District 4; and Donna Hathaway Beck, District 9. Deputy School Superintendent Bonita Coleman also attended the meeting. All members of the city council except Silke Pope were present, as well as City Manager Michael McLaughlin.

Student-based Budgeting

This budgeting process differs from the traditional funding system that allocates resources to schools based on staffing formulas and school-specific programs. Instead, schools will be funded per child, with the amount of funding attached to each child varying based on each child's needs. Schools also will have more flexibility in deciding what

to do with those resources.

During the current school year, this new way of budgeting was tested in eight schools, none in the Greenbelt area. Now the school system is undertaking a full roll-out of the new budget process in all schools. Preliminary figures for each school are available and may be obtained at the school system website: www1.pgcps.org.

New Figures

Tentatively, all schools will receive \$3,077 (rounded up to nearest dollar) for each student enrolled. (Greenbelt Middle School is projected to have 946 students for a base budget allocation of \$2,910,698. Eleanor Roosevelt High School is to have 2,420 students for an allocation of \$7,445,971.)

Additional funds are then added for each projected student

See SCHOOLS, page 7

Photographer Eric Zhang Shows Slices of Greenbelt Life in 2012

by Brian Compere

Greenbelt is a city with stories to tell and Eric Zhang, 38, has made it his personal mission to document those stories throughout 2012, the 75th anniversary of the city.

Armed with a Nikon D700 camera and a photo blog at <http://greenbelt2012.wordpress.com/>, Zhang is pursuing a personal goal of illustrating "slices of life" in Greenbelt by putting a post online every day of the year.

With the exception of a handful of short workshops, Zhang learned what he knows about photography primarily by teaching himself based on what he saw in other people's works.

Inspired by History

His inspiration for this project originates from Greenbelt's first days. In the early history of the city President Franklin Delano



Eric Zhang

Roosevelt's administration hired photographers of high caliber, such as Arthur Rothstein, Marjory Collins and Dorothea Lange, to document American life at that time.

Through this program, executed by the Farm Security

Administration (FSA), photographers took a photographic record of places throughout the nation, including Greenbelt. Those involved with this endeavor, who Zhang said had a "special sense of what's important," influenced Zhang to start his project.

When in charge of the FSA project, Roy Emerson Stryker utilized the concept of a "shooting script," a detailed checklist of what to photograph depending on the setting. Zhang said that creating something similar to this formula is his "ultimate goal."

Zhang had studied the work of photographers like Lange, Marion Post Wolcott and Russell Lee before knowing about Greenbelt, a connection that helped inspire him.

This connection between these photographers Zhang admires and the town he lives in, led to his idea to "follow in these people's footsteps" recording snapshots of everyday life in Greenbelt in 2012 just as they had done 75 years ago.

"These people are really amazing," Zhang said. "I wanted to do something like what they were doing at that time."

Zhang's inspiration is not limited to FSA photographers, however. The photographs Lange took of Japanese Americans in internment camps during World War II, published in 2006 by Linda Gordon and Gary Okihiro,

See ZHANG, page 9

Black History Month

February 1 marked the beginning of Black History Month. The observance celebrates the achievements of African Americans and a time for recognizing their role in U.S. history. For the month of February, the News Review will run articles about the contributions of African Americans living in Greenbelt. The series is being coordinated by News Review reporter Altoria Bell Ross.

Washington Has Diversity In Family, Seeks it Here

by Virginia Beauchamp and Marat Moore

"A wonderful experience" – that's how Darrin Washington describes his 23 years in Greenbelt. But his path to community involvement came after one very unpleasant experience – being burglarized at his brand-new Belle Point townhome.

Washington, distraught, turned to his father, a retired D.C. police officer with 37 years on the force.

"He told me, 'This is your fault. You don't participate in your community. You live here but you're not really living here. And if you don't care, why should anyone else?'" Washington recalled.

That tough-love challenge prompted him to get involved with the homeowner's association in Belle Point and he's now been



Darrin Washington

on the board for six years. "I had done charity work but I'd never been part of a civic association in my own community," he said. Soon he became excited about being able to make a positive difference where he lives.

"We have so many talented and intelligent people in Greenbelt, more than in most communities," said Washington, a software engineer who now handles sales and contracts with the military health system of Northrup Grumman.

Later he joined the city's Public Safety Advisory Committee and learned more about all parts of Greenbelt and the demographic differences in the city. Now his

See WASHINGTON, page 6

L. Baravechia Is Paralegal, Soccer Mom and Volunteer

by Jim Link

Chatting over a morning cup of Karim's coffee at the New Deal Café, Lashell Baravechia put me at ease with her unpretentious manner, articulate expression and voluble flow of good talk.

The mother of a 9-year-old son (Matthew) and wife of a retired firefighter (Rick), the Boxwood Village resident has lived in Greenbelt for 12 years. "When we met, my (future) husband had already lived in Greenbelt for 16 years and wouldn't think of leaving, so I joined him." After 30 years of fighting fires, Rick left the Arlington County Fire Department as a captain. "Now we are



Lashell Baravechia

professional volunteers," claims Lashell, or at least she and Matthew are.

Matthew and his mom volunteer twice a week at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter. "We love to interact with animals; they get their TLC and we get our dog fix."

Lashell and Rick have involved Matthew in a variety of sports.

"We're always at the Greenbelt Youth Center; Matthew plays on lots of Greenbelt teams, the boys club teams – soccer, baseball, basketball."

See BARAVECHIA, page 6

What Goes On

Thursday, February 16

6:30 p.m., Feasibility Study on the Widening of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Community Center

Monday, February 20

City and GHI Offices Closed in observance of President's Day.

Tuesday, February 21

11 a.m. to noon, Ask the Experts Taping on Hospice Care, Green Ridge House

Wednesday, February 22

8 p.m., Council Worksession re: Greenbelt South Core, Community Center

Thursday, February 23

7:30 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, GHI Administration Building

Letters to the Editor

Loved the Issue

From the Valentine’s Day King and Queen photos that ran with Sandra Lange’s early days to the Eric Zhang pop-up Valentine pictures during Artful Afternoon to love notes, the News Review’s issue for Valentine’s Day rocks!

Altoria Ross

Editor’s Note: Altoria Ross, reporter and former board member of the News Review is away from her desk recovering from foot surgery.

THANKS!

A most sincere thank you to Father Walter Tappe of St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, GVFD Ladies Auxiliary, Greenbelt Police Department and countless friends who were there for support for me and our family during my Mom’s illness and also when she passed.

It has been very difficult for our family to experience such a loss. But the support and love of so many has made every day more bearable.

God bless you all.

Diane Ronchi and
brothers George and William

Barking Dog May Be Excellent Deterrent

The refusal of Greenbelt Homes to allow a Greenbelt police officer who is also a resident of Greenbelt to put a dog kennel in his yard is totally ludicrous. Has anyone at GHI noticed the great number of dogs in Greenbelt and how they all bark? That is what dogs do!

Having a kennel does not mean that the dog would be always in the kennel. Police dogs become members of the family and most likely spend little time in the outdoor facility. Walk down almost any sidewalk in Greenbelt and you will be barked at – which in some cases is an excellent deterrent.

Greenbelt should be glad to have Officer Robert DeFibaugh not only as a resident but as a 5-1/2 year member of the Greenbelt Police Department who is committed to serving and protecting the residents of Greenbelt as a K-9 officer.

Pauline Bordas

Let’s Not Lose A Valued K-9

Let’s find another home in GHI for K-9 police officer Robert DeFibaugh and his police

dog. Let’s not lose this valued member of the Greenbelt Police Department, City of Greenbelt and Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

The house next to me is a corner lot and the owner has not lived there since September. My neighbors and I would be honored to have Officer DeFibaugh in our court.

Patricia Davis

Entitled to Opinion

I feel I must respond to Mr. Scott Rose’s letter demanding Junior Miss Greenbelt Sarah Crank surrender her crown, sash and title because she doesn’t agree with many people’s opinions of gay marriage.

Last time I checked, Greenbelt and the State of Maryland were part of the United States, which believes in freedom of speech. Miss Crank spoke giving her opinion that her best birthday present would be the Maryland politicians’ vote against gay marriage. That is her right as a citizen of the United States, Maryland and Greenbelt. I did not see in the rules to be Miss Greenbelt or Junior Miss Greenbelt that they must be pro- or anti-gay, Democrat or Republican.

I find it amazing that Mr. Rose has started to use tactics that were used against the people like him 30 to 50 years ago. Now he is doing the same things that were done to people like him then, he feels free to make his opinions known; she doesn’t have that right because her opinion differs from his.

I sure hope Miss Crank rejects the demand to surrender her title because someone doesn’t like her opinion. I do not object to Mr. Rose standing up for his belief. I don’t think that Mr. Rose should object that Miss Crank is standing up for her belief. That’s why this country is so great.

Thomas Carter

Penalize Free Speech?

Sarah Crank, Junior Miss Greenbelt, has come under fire for indulging in a time-honored Greenbelt tradition – saying what she thinks. I’ve lived in this community since 1943 and never before has punishment been demanded of an individual for speaking her mind.

You don’t have to agree with her but you do have to let her have her say. Just as you have yours. Don’t penalize her for the free speech you demand for yourself.

Judith Holland

Hypocrisy at Work?

After reading last week’s letter to the editor from Scott Rose, I felt compelled to respond and even defend Sarah Crank, our city’s reigning Junior Miss Greenbelt. First I must confess I do not know either of these people personally and so this is strictly a matter of grace and clarity.

I am not sure if Rose is just informing us (the greater Greenbelt community) of this action (Demands Surrender) or if he is drumming up support to have the action invoked? So I tread lightly as to whether this is a political view or a journalistic view. What I find to be of merit is that a young person like Sarah Crank (who as a Junior Miss cannot be more than in the midst of her teenage years) had the courage to speak her mind in front of elder statesmen. Now I do not agree with her stance on this issue but I admire and respect her convictions to state her beliefs and voice her viewpoint. For activists who freely speak their views for their causes to demand she relinquish her title and benefits received as a contest winner, for speaking boldly as well, seems on the surface hypocritical. Under the surface it seems like bullying a young person, a young person who has not accrued much human experience thus far in her life and may not know how this issue truly impacts others.

Sarah Crank is a youth and if youth really remained steadfast in what they hoped for in this world, there would be a lot more veterinarians in the world. Seriously though, this appears to be another extreme reaction to a person’s freedom to speak their conscience in contrast to another person’s beliefs. Sarah Crank does have the freedom to be involved in the political process, she also has the right to be wrong if that is the case.

I am proud to know that here

Grin Belt



“I was just testing them to make sure”

On Screen

Monster or Heroine?

Are ideas and clear thinking more important than feelings? Margaret Thatcher excelled brilliantly at the former and rather suppressed the latter. Does that make her a monster or a heroine? See Meryl Streep channel “The Iron Lady” in another of her pitch-perfect riveting characterizations (Julia Child, Karen Silkwood, Isak Dinesen, etc.), coming to Old Greenbelt Theatre this Friday, February 17.

Denis Thatcher is played by Jim Broadbent. Directed by Phyllida Lloyd and written by Abi Morgan. PG-13, the running is 1 hour, 45 min.

– Jim Link

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624
Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Renata York, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Denise George

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$40/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING

Thursday, February 23, 2012

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Yard Line Certification: 2 Woodland Way and 8 Southway
- Proposed 10’x10’ Gazebo in Gardenside Yard, 14K Laurel Hill
- Town Hall Meeting Questions and Responses
- CAC Disaster Preparedness Survey
- 2012 Gutter Cleaning Contract, 1st Reading
- Vehicle Purchase, 1st Reading
- Contract for Addition Maintenance Program Reserves Analysis – 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop

See LETTERS, page 6

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF FEB 17

The Iron Lady (PG-13)

Friday

*5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Saturday

*3, *5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Sunday - Monday

*3, *5:15, 7:30

Tuesday – Thursday

*5:15, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.50
Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$5.00.

Now accepting Visa, Discover and
MasterCard for ticket sales only.
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745

129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for February 20 through 24:

Monday – All sites closed for Presidents Day.

Tuesday – Apple juice, stuffed peppers with meat sauce, potatoes au gratin, green beans, tropical fruit salad.

Wednesday – Orange juice, baked Pollock with Newburg sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, broccoli, pears and peaches.

Thursday – Grape juice, roasted chicken with gravy, scalloped potatoes, peas, diced pears.

Friday – Orange juice, veggie burger on a hamburger roll with barbecue sauce, baked beans, zucchini, applesauce.

GHI Notes

Thursday, February 16, 6:45 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting – Board Room

Friday, February 17, Office Closed – For Maintenance Emergency call 301-474-6011

Monday, February 20, Office Closed for Presidents Day – For Maintenance Emergency call 301-474-6011

Tuesday, February 21, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee – GHI Lobby

7:30 p.m., Nominations & Elections Committee – GHI Library

Thursday, February 23, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Monday, February 27, 7 p.m., Bylaws Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby

7 p.m., Communicator Task Force Meeting – GHI Lunch Room

7 p.m., Executive Session of the Board – Board Room

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

More Community Events
can be found
throughout the paper.

At the Library Adult Programs

Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m. the monthly adult book discussion will be held. This month’s book will be Brooke Newman’s “Jenniemaë and James.”

Adult book discussions are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The March book, to be discussed on March 20, will be E.L. Doctorow’s “Home and Langley.”

Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props.

Wednesday, February 22, 10:30 a.m.: Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

Space is limited; pick up a free ticket for Storytime events at the information desk.

For more information visit the library, call 301-345-5800 or visit www.pgcmils.info.

Join Group Bike Ride To D.C. on Sunday

All are invited to join in a community group bike ride to Washington, D.C., Sunday, February 19. The outing includes downtown, Capitol Hill and getting lunch at D.C’s historic Eastern Market.

The 33-mile route leaves from Proteus Bike Shop in North College Park at 1 p.m. and returns to the shop at about 4:30 p.m. Greenbelt riders will leave from the New Deal Café at 12:30 p.m. to head to the start.

The route is mostly on trails, bike lanes or quiet streets. The group will ride at a moderate pace or in groups – no one will be left behind.

For details visit www.proteusbicycles.com or call 301-441-2928.

Spaghetti Dinner

February 18, 5-7 p.m.

Mowatt United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt



\$8 Adults



\$6 Children 5-12 years
Under 4 free

Baked Goods for Sale

Library Talk, Concert On Fortune’s Bones

On Saturday, February 25 at 2 p.m. there will be a special book reading and discussion at the Greenbelt library by author Marilyn Nelson on her groundbreaking work “Fortune’s Bones: The Manumission Requiem.” The presentation will be held in the library’s large meeting room.

Fortune was an 18th century African American slave from Waterbury, Conn., who was dissected upon his death by his owner and used as a medical exhibit to teach anatomy. His skeleton is housed in the collection of the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury where it was featured in a 2003 exhibit of his life and the community in which he lived.

Nelson’s book was set to music by Dr. Ysaye Barnwell, artistic director of Sweet Honey and the Rock and noted composer, singer, educator and author. The University of Maryland’s Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center asked Dr. Barnwell to curate the Fortune’s Bones project with partners to bring the year-long celebration to Prince George’s County and surrounding communities.

The following evening Saturday, February 25 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 26 at 2 p.m. Drs. Nelson and Barnwell will hold a free discussion of Fortune’s Bones in the Leah M. Smith Lecture Hall, Room 2200. This will be just before performances of Fortune’s Bones, for which there is a fee.

GATE Has Nonprofit Day for Taping PSAs

The Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) studio will hold a nonprofit day Saturday, February 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to allow Greenbelt-based nonprofit organizations to present a 30-second public service announcement. On a first-come, first-served basis the PSAs will be taped and edited for showing between programs on the GATE Channels, Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19.

Organizational presenters should bring a draft script including name, their organizational name, a brief description of the mission or event to be publicized and contact information. Any additional supporting pictures should be brought in as jpegs on a CD. GATE recommends against wearing all black, all white or small patterns as those do not videotape well.

A professional grade Auto-script teleprompter is available so there is no need to memorize a script, though good familiarity with the contents is highly recommended. GATE is located on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center, across from the Multipurpose Room.

GATE is prohibited by law from promoting commercial organizations or commercial events including raffles, sales and lotteries.

For questions or further information call the GATE studio at 301-507-6581 or MaliaMurray@hotmail.com.

Still Creek Cleanup Saturday, Feb. 25

A cleanup of the Still Creek watershed in Greenbelt Park will be held on Saturday, February 25 from 9:30 to noon. Meet at the intersection of Good Luck Road and Auburn Avenue and walk to the cleanup area. Bring boots, gloves and water.

For more information call 301-344-3944, check the park website at www.nps.gov/gree or the Friends of Still Creek website at www.stillcreekwatershed.org.

Join Cajun Jam At New Deal

On Tuesday, February 21, which is also Mardi Gras, a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners. Beginners are welcome.

For more information visit <http://www.newdealcafe.com/>.

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First Monday of Every Month

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www.academy8theaters.com

R = ID Required
(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

WEEK OF FEB. 17

FRI. – SAT.
Chronicle, PG-13
11:35, 1:25, 3:25, 5:35, 7:40, 10
Journey: 2 in 2D, PG
2:30, 7:45
Star Wars: Episode 1 in 2D, PG
11:35, 4:45, 9:50
Ghost Rider in 2D, PG-13 (!)
11:20
Ghost Rider in 3D, PG-13 (!)
1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8, 10:10
This Means War, PG-13 (!!)
11:50, 2:40, 5:20, 7:40, 10
Journey: 2 in 3D, PG (!)
11:50, 5:20
Star Wars: Episode 1 in 3D, PG (!)
2:20, 7:50
Safe House, R (!)
11:40, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15
The Vow, PG-13 (!)
11:55, 2:30, 5:20, 7:40, 10:05
The Woman in Black, PG-13
2:20, 7:50, 10:10
Red Tails, PG-13
11:40, 5:05

SUN. – THU.
Chronicle, PG-13
11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:25, 7:30
Journey: 2 in 2D, PG
2:30, 7:35
Star Wars: Episode 1 in 2D, PG
11:35, 4:40
Ghost Rider in 2D, PG-13 (!)
11:55
Ghost Rider in 3D, PG-13 (!)
2:20, 5:15, 7:25
This Means War, PG-13 (!!)
11:50, 2:20, 5:10, 7:25
Journey: 2 in 3D, PG (!)
11:35, 4:45
Star Wars: Episode 1 in 3D, PG (!)
1:50, 6:55
Safe House, R (!)
11:40, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30
The Vow, PG-13 (!)
11:55, 2:30, 5, 7:15
The Woman in Black, PG-13
2:10, 7:25
Red Tails, PG-13
11:30, 4:45

Greenbelt Nursery School Open House

Registration for Fall 2012

Saturday, February 25, 10 am – 1 pm

*Classes for children ages 2, 3, and 4
Two, three, and five days a week. Low child to staff ratio.
Full day educational programs available.*

Greenbelt Community Center • 15 Crescent Road
tel. 301-474-5570 • www.greenbeltnurseryschool.org

 Accredited by NAEYC's National Academy of Early Childhood Programs





This Weekend Only At The Greenbelt Arts Center!



Truth Be Told

A guest production from alight dance theater
February 17 & 18 at 8:00 PM

Ticket prices for each event:
\$17 General Admission, \$14 Students/Seniors

For information & reservations, call **301-441-8770**
email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org
or **BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Coming Soon:
March 9 – 31, 2012 – Pippin
April 7, 2012 - Celtic Concert with The Homespun Ceilidh Band
April 27 – May 19 – The Graduate

123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Greenbelt Baseball

2012 Registration Dates
(Bring a copy of Child’s Birth Certificate & Photo ID)

Saturdays: February 18 and 25

Registration will be held at the following locations and times
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Greenbelt Youth Center
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Spring Hill Lake Youth Center

DRAFT DAY
Saturday, March 3, 2012
10:00 AM, First Year Players Draft (McDonald Field)
(Bad Weather Date Saturday, March 10, 2012 same time and location)
Major League Players Only
(Registration will also be available before the draft)
For more information please contact:
Commissioner – Brian Bailey at 301-395-1547 or at greenbeltbaseball@aol.com

Obituaries

Dirce “Dee” Ronchi

Dirce “Dee” Ronchi, a Greenbelt resident for 65 years, died February 2, 2012.

She was born March 24, 1921, in West New York, N.J., just 10 months after her parents arrived from Brusnengo, Italy, via Ellis Island.



Mrs. Ronchi grew up in West New York, graduated from Memorial High School and went to work for Farrar and Rinehard, Inc., a publishing company in New York.



Her future husband, George Ronchi, was on leave from Langley Field, N.Y., and met Dirce, at a relative's house.

They were married in 1945 and moved to Hyattsville with her husband's family and eventually found their first home in Greenbelt in 1947.

The couple raised three children, Diane, George and William. Mrs. Ronchi was very devoted to her family. She made sure her children attended Mass every Sunday. The children attended St. Hugh's School where Mrs. Ronchi was very active with being a room mother, helping with all the activities at the school, including bazaars, bake sales, luncheons, etc. She was also a cub scout leader for a number of years and was an active member of the senior program until she lost her hearing.

Mrs. Ronchi loved her neighbors so much and always considered herself blessed to be in such a wonderful court surrounded by so many friends. Mrs. Ronchi's favorite pastime was walking to the Co-op where she could count on seeing so many of her friends.

Mrs. Ronchi was predeceased by her husband George in July 2000.

She is survived by her three children, her sister Jeanette (her only brother, Sergio, was killed at the Battle of the Bulge during World War II), six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church on February 7, officiated by Father Walter Tappe. Interment was at Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

NAMI Meets

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Carrollton Area support group will meet at the Hanko Building at Beckett Field, 8511 Legation Road, New Carrollton on Monday, February 20 from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information call Dominique Thomas at 301-385-1699.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Upcoming Events at New Deal Café

Friday, February 17 jazz pianist John Guernsey plays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then Cyprus Trio celebrates Mardi Gras with traditional Cajun tunes from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, February 18 begins with Bruce Kritt playing classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., then John Guernsey plays jazz and blues piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Headline Reverie Jazz Trio finishes the evening from 8 to 11 p.m. with jazz and blues standards, focusing on the 1930s as a part of Greenbelt's 75th anniversary celebration.

On Sunday, February 19 the Not2Cool Jazz Trio plays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by the monthly Kid's Open Microphone session from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The evening features Darkuba Dawg Hafila's live Middle Eastern music and dance from 5 to 7 p.m. with musicians playing exotic instruments including the oud, darbuka and riq.

Next Week

Monday, February 20 at 7 p.m. Reel and Meal at the New Deal will show "Dirt! The Movie," taking viewers inside Earth's most valuable and under-appreciated resource from beginning to crippling degradation. Tuesday, February 21 will feature a Cajun Music Jam for Mardi Gras' Fat Tuesday celebration from 7 to 9 p.m. Bring instruments and join in. The open microphone Poetry Night on Wednesday, February 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. offers a chance to read one's own or others' writings. On Thursday, February 23 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays mid-day melodies from noon to 2, followed from 7 to 9 p.m. with the Songwriters Association of Washington open microphone session.

Friday, February 24 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. jazz pianist John Guernsey plays, then Bill "The Hat" and "Jersey" Larry's Pendulum Revival with Ren Rick, Marty Pell and Bonedrye perform classic rock from 8 to 11 p.m. The Saturday, February 25 schedule begins with Greg Meyer's jazz Jam from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Come join the monthly community jazz jam! John Guernsey follows with up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and the Lonesome Pine Bluegrass Band will play from 8 to 11 p.m. On Sunday, February 26 from 5 to 8 p.m. The Petrified Pickers bring an off-the-cuff evening of bluegrass and country classics to the Café.



Explore Facebook, Twitter on Feb. 24

On Friday, February 24 Explorations Unlimited will host a discussion of social media including Facebook and Twitter by city public information and communication coordinator Beverly Palau. Palau will give an overview of what social media is and how to use it.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in Room 201. All are welcome and questions are encouraged. For more information call 301-397-2208.

Ask the Expert Tapes Hospice Care Piece

The next taping of the Greenbelt Assistance in Living program's Ask the Expert cable show will be held from 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, February 21 and will cover the subject of hospice care.


"What is hospice care? What services do hospices provide? How do I know if hospice care is right for me or my loved ones?" – find the answers to such questions and more from Margaret Capurso of Washington Home and Community Hospices.

The taping will take place at Green Ridge House (22 Ridge Road) in the dining room.

For more information or to RSVP email Sharon Vanzego-Johnson at svanzego-johnson@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-412-2480.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community





Sunday, February 19, 10 a.m.

"Let Us Pray" Rev. Diane Teichert with Worship Associate Ken Redd and DRE Erica Shadowsong

Pondering our own answers to prayer.

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. James Lawton - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
berwynpresbyterian.net



Worship : Sundays at 11:00 am -- Child Care Available
Sunday School: Sundays at 9:30 am
Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10am

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST




Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd



O My Servant!
Thou art even as a finely tempered sword concealed in the darkness of its sheath and its value hidden from the artificer's knowledge. Wherefore come forth from the sheath of self and desire that thy worth may be made resplendent and manifest unto all the world.
(Baha'u'llah)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us



Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship Service
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

St. George's Episcopal Church

Join us around a table where all are welcome!




Shape a Circle Ever Wider
And a People Ever Free

Services

- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111
www.myholycross.org email myholycross@verizon.net

Worship 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Quiet Communion Service
Come as you are!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!
Join us on Facebook at Holy Cross Lutheran Greenbelt



Condolences to the family and friends of retired city employee Willie Earl Davis, who died February 9, 2012. He was a supervisory inspector in the city’s office of planning and community development.

We were sorry to hear of the death of John D. (“Denny”) Murray, 72, in Petaluma, Calif., on February 3, 2012. He was a builder in Calvert County, Md., and was the son of the late pioneer Greenbelters John P. and Theodora (“Teddy”) Murray. A memorial service will be held at the Rod and Reel in Chesapeake Beach on February 20.

Congratulations to Wendy Wexler on her retirement from Greenbelt CARES after 33 years as a youth and family counselor.

Happy 85th birthday to Gerti Wines of 13 Court Ridge. After being surprised at a cupcake party in her honor given by her neighbors, Gerti was seen walking through the parking lot with a giant balloon presented to her by Norwegian exchange student Marie Valstad. Gerti’s motto for an active life is “If you don’t use it, you lose it.”



Happy 80th birthday to David Freivogel of 14 Hillside, who celebrates the milestone on February 25. Born in St. Louis, he has lived in GHI since 1980 and was a pianist, percussionist, composer and music consultant at the University of Maryland Department of Dance until his 2005 retirement. In the photo above he is sharing his musical talents with several younger family members on his last visit home in 2007.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We’d especially like to hear more from our neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for “Our Neighbors” email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland

Co-op Food Demos, Wine Tasting Dates

The Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy food demos and wine tastings for this month will be held on Fridays, February 17 and 24 from 4 to 7 p.m. and on Wednesday, February 29 from 4 to 6 p.m.

At the February 24 event Boordy Vineyards will be the special guest at the tasting.

The February 29 Seasonal and Savory demonstration and wine tasting will feature colcannon, an Irish mashed potato and kale or cabbage dish. It is also Patron Appreciation Day with a five percent discount on purchases.



City Information

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20-25

Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** – Greenbelt South Core. Meeting will be at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. **(TENTATIVE)**

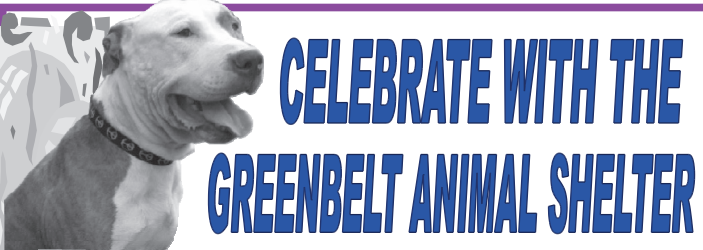
This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Public Safety Advisory Committee and Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
For information call 301-474-8000.

PUBLIC HEARING SIGNS ON CRESCENT RD

The City and GHI will be posting Prince George’s County Planning Board public hearing notice signs along Crescent Road, between Gardenway and Eastway the week of February 20th. The City and GHI are working cooperatively to adjust the right-of-way line along this section of roadway so there are minimal overlaps with GHI yards. A public hearing is required by County Code, and is scheduled for March 22, 2012. If you have any questions please contact Terri Hruby, Assistant Planning Director at (301) 474-0569.



CELEBRATE WITH THE GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

Celebrating...

Big Daddy’s Birthday Bash!
And the Animal Shelter Recently Passing
Over 1,000 Facebook Friends!

SATURDAY, MARCH 10th
8:00 p.m.- 12:00 a.m.

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department
125 Crescent Road

\$20 Pre-Sale Tickets: Available at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, M-F from 4-6pm and Saturdays from 9-11am
\$25.00 at the Door.

Pizza, Casino Table, 50/50 Raffle, Beer, Sodas, DJ, Dancing, Birthday Cake and of course the guest of honor, **BIG DADDY!**

MUST BE 18 OR OVER TO ATTEND...21 FOR BEER.
SPONSORED BY THE GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Proceeds will go to the Ronin Veterinary Fund to help pay for the animals’ medical expenses. Info: 240-508-7533

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO SERVE ON THE CITY OF GREENBELT ETHICS COMMISSION

Volunteers are being sought to fill three (3) positions on the newly established Greenbelt Ethics Commission.

- I. In accordance with the Greenbelt City Code, Chapter 2 Administration, Article IV “Public Ethics”, the Ethics Commission shall consist of three (3) regular members, appointed by the Council. The Commission shall be assisted in carrying out its responsibilities by legal counsel.
- II. The Commission shall be the advisory body responsible for interpreting this Article and advising persons subject to it as to its application.
- III. The Commission shall be responsible for hearing and deciding, on advice of legal counsel, any complaint filed regarding an alleged violation of this Article by any person.

Please refer to Ordinance No. 1318 passed by the City Council on September 26, 2011 for details of the Ethics Ordinance. The ordinance is available on the City website, www.greenbeltmd.gov, and in the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road.

To apply please send a letter of interest and resume to: Cindy Murray, City Clerk, City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 – or email cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in observance of Presidents’ Day.
The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of February 20th
Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, February 24th.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Energy Efficiency Lighting Upgrade - Parking Lots & Pathways

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland, is seeking proposals for an Energy Efficiency Community Development Block Grant (EECBG) funded renovation project. Interested contractors can obtain a detailed RFP Document by visiting the City’s website at

www.greenbeltmd.gov/lighting_RFP_Document

Contractors submitting a proposal should review the procurement requirements listed on the MEA website with particular attention to: ARRA of 2009, Buy American requirements, Davis-Bacon Act, Copeland Act, Whistleblower Protection Act and Waste Management requirements. Additional information is available at <http://energy.maryland.gov/Govt/EECBG.html>. Potential Contractors should pay particular attention to the document labeled “Attachment D (revised July 2010) – ARRA Addendum – Special Terms and Conditions for ARRA-Funded EECBG Grants” available at <http://energy.maryland.gov/documents/RevisedARRAAddendumJuly2010.pdf>.

Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) are encouraged to submit proposals.

Proposals must be RECEIVED no later than 3/5/12 at 12:00 p.m. There is a mandatory pre-proposal meeting on 2/27/12 at 10:00 a.m. at the Greenbelt Municipal Building for any contractor wishing to submit a proposal.

GREENBELT ADULT SPORTS PROGRAM (GASP)

Interest Meeting
Thursday, March 1 at 7:00pm
Greenbelt Youth Center Multi-Purpose Room

The Greenbelt Recreation Department is reintroducing the Greenbelt Adult Sports Program (GASP). For a nominal fee, local adults will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-ed team sports throughout the year. GASP is designed for those seeking exercise and fun in a non-competitive atmosphere. Make the decision now to become more active and meet some new people and have fun along the way. GASP welcomes all skill levels! If you plan to attend the GASP Interest Meeting, please contact Sports & Recreation Coordinator Andrew Phelan at aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-542-2194.

ASK THE EXPERT-HOSPICE CARE

What is hospice care? What services do hospices provide? How do I know if hospice care is right for me or my loved ones? Learn the answers to these questions and more at the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program’s Ask the Expert cable show taping on Tuesday, February 21st! Margaret Capurso of Washington Home and Community Hospices will come to discuss hospice care and answer all of your burning questions. The taping will take place at the Green Ridge House (22 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770) in the Dining Room from 11am-12pm. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sharon Vanzego-Johnson at svanzego-johnson@greenbeltmd.gov or 301-412-2480.



GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER
550-A Crescent Road (behind Police Station)
COME OUT AND VISIT ALL THE ADORABLE PETS.

Congrats Alvin on your new home!
The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. INFO: 301.474.6124. Donations welcome!

Letters to the Editor

in my community we have young people who wish to be relevant and that Greenbelt’s youth show us they want to participate in our democratic challenges by voicing their concerns . . . that they know they do not have to be silent or that they know they can be who they see themselves to be. She may learn from this that her beliefs may change as she experiences life and grows in wisdom and maturity.

Until then, as a crowned 2011 Junior Miss Greenbelt, enjoy your year – you earned it and deserve it.

Douglas A. Mangum

Yes to FBI Headquarters

The prospect of a new FBI headquarters at the Greenbelt Metro is terrific news for Greenbelters. Many of those 11,000+ highly-educated and highly-paid employees will find Greenbelt an attractive place to both work and live, especially as gas prices increase. The budgets for ARS, which runs BARC, and NASA are stagnant or dropping, a situation which will likely mean more vacant Greenbelt homes, more foreclosures and further reductions in both home values (which have already dropped 25 to 30 percent) and the tax base. In contrast, having a large, stable employer will be a huge benefit to Greenbelt residents and neighborhoods. The arrival of the FBI headquarters will improve apartment and office occupancy rates and business owners/operators will thrive with the influx of numerous FBI contractors. In addition, a law enforcement headquarters may put a damper on crime around the Greenbelt Metro station, Greenbelt West and possibly other parts of Greenbelt.

Some councilmembers seem concerned about losing an opportunity for high-end retail at the Metro station but there is a good chance this plan is no longer viable as brick-and-mortar stores lose more business to online retailers. City officials hope that new residential development will increase the tax base (federal facilities don’t pay taxes). But new residential development would require many public services and increase city expenses, whereas services required by the FBI headquarters would be minimal or nonexistent. And new residential development would make it even harder to sell existing homes in Greenbelt.

If jobs, economic development, public safety and property values are the city’s top priorities, then the FBI headquarters is a home run.

*Joan Falcão
Robert Fireovid*

Thanks to Council!

I wish to thank the Greenbelt

City Council for its support and endorsement of the effort to request a constitutional amendment which will address (reverse) the two 2010 Supreme Court decisions that have transformed the campaign-finance-elections landscape. The first, Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (FEC) with the Supreme Court voting 5-4 overturned a decades-old ban on corporate and union funds being used to support individual candidates and political causes.

The second decision, SpeechNow.org v. FEC, ruled that capping donations to political committees was unconstitutional, thus paving the way for the unbridled formation of more super PACs (political-action committees). These have become a vehicle for the wealthiest individuals and corporations to magnify their influence during the elections process and through lobbying and influencing legislation.

City Council voted unanimously to support the effort to amend the Constitution at a recent City Council meeting and sent a letter February 2 to our Maryland state legislature (our three delegates in the 22nd district and State Senator Paul G. Pinsky) endorsing this effort and asking them to do so as well. Maryland State Senator Jamie Raskin (Montgomery County) is leading this effort in our Maryland State Senate.

Getting a new amendment to the constitution is no small task and may take many years to convince two-thirds of both houses of Congress and ratification by ¾ of all 50 state legislatures. Previous amendments to the Constitution began with small groups and organizations and then eventually towns and cities and this paved the way for getting the needed support (votes) in the state legislatures. Thanks to Greenbelt for doing its part.

Bob Snyder

Corn and Wind Are No Answer

Bill Norwood’s January 19 letter to the editor, “The Green Elephant in the Living Room” makes good points about the cars that most of us use too much. We all need to work on that.

I’d like to add a word about a couple of other elephants in that room that were lauded in the “Deeper Shade of Green” article (January 5) that prompted Bill’s letter. These elephants are a bit smaller and many don’t see them as elephants yet. I’m talking about corn and wind power.

Let’s start with corn. It’s great that the Labor Day Festival vendors used lots of corn-based tableware. But last I read, corn covers 10 percent of Maryland – and God knows how much land elsewhere – with a monoculture compared to which a desert is

positively lush with life. There has to be a better use for all that land than feeding stoves and producing tableware, to say nothing of fueling “alternative” vehicles that help the “dirty” ones clog highways, promoting destructive road-building. (I won’t get into feeding beef cattle, beef being an indulgence I’m working on eliminating. I’d love some help. Less corn = less cattle = help. Thank you.) Corn may be an occasional scenic pleasure – who doesn’t enjoy amber waves? – and tasty on the cob. Corn cups and plates may be a step up from petroleum (on which corn growers rely greatly, of course). But let’s not pretend that increasing corn’s footprint on the land is sustainable. Corn is a way station at best. It’s the new tobacco; the faster we kick the habit the better.

As to wind power: once again we have something that looks great from a distance (e.g., your electric bill). It’s not so great when one is standing in a wind farm. Frequently one is standing in a forest that isn’t there anymore. Then there are the birds, bats and insects that die in droves on the blades of wind turbines (the bats die when their lungs hemorrhage from the pressure drop; the blades don’t even have to touch them). We aren’t apparently counting but Spain is: Spanish wind kills from six to 18 million birds and bats per year, according to a report released in January and our country has twice as many wind turbines. (A chilling note from the report: “the mortality figures that were reported in Germany and Sweden in the early 1990s are not unusual after all.”) These animals, already under assault from various other eco-misdeeds of ours, are critical to the biotic foundation on which our green efforts rest. Although wind may be somewhat of an improvement over what we were doing – that sounds awful, now, eh? – we can’t paint it as a green triumph. Too many of our cohabitants on this orb mortally disagree.

(It’s ironic that Clean Currents is helping fund gardens and tree planting. Call it damage control.)

I hope it’s obvious to everyone that mitigating the harm we do to the nature around us is a process of halting baby steps. That we are taking them is better than doing nothing. I’m just saying that getting greener is no cause for self-congratulation, a bit too much of which I saw in the January 5 article. It’s a debt we owe the creation. We must recognize baby steps and the urgency of taking the next one as soon as we can. We’re nowhere near the destination yet.

Use less of everything you use. Continuously doing that is the biggest baby step any of us can take.

Donn Ahearn



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Snow drops stand tall, a precursor of warmer days to come.

BARAVECHIA continued from page 1

Lashell has also volunteered at the Greenbelt Nursery School and was its board president in 2006. Now whenever she volunteers for anything, Rick tends to ask “Is this going to be a paying gig?”

Though she is busy as a volunteer and a soccer mom, Lashell is far from retired. She has traveled an interesting path from being a lunch and recess monitor at Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) to working as a legal secretary to being a paralegal now.

“My job at GES got cut – budget restraints.”

“Did Matthew mind having his mom around at lunch and recess?”

“Oh no, he loved it. I got to feed him and monitor the kids, which I loved doing. I miss it. Most people wouldn’t but I enjoy being around kids.”

Lashell was a legal secretary at Robert Ades and Associates in Landover from 1999 until recently. Her work skills there prepared her for work as a paralegal at McAndrew and Zitver in Greenbelt. “I do a lot of research and prepare attorneys (the cases) for court.”

Lashell was born in Washington, D.C. at Children’s Hospital and graduated from Springbrook High School in Montgomery County. She attends a non-denominational Christian Church in Bethesda and Matthew is a third grader at Holy Redeemer Elementary School in College Park.

“Since your husband is retired and you are not, does he sleep late and drink coffee all day?” asked the obtuse interviewer.

“Oh no, not at all! He’s up with us, helping out,” Lashell insisted.

Concerning Black History Month, she says, “It’s nice to be recognized; I’m glad it (Black History Month) is recognized but black history is not confined to just one month. It’s not as if black history takes a holiday.”

Because Lashell was born in 1966 – “in January, during the blizzard – my mother almost didn’t make it to the hospital – my grandfather had to carry her” – there are some African-American icons who don’t particularly resonate with her. Malcolm X and Muhammad Ali, for example, elicit a polite shrug. But Lena Horne? “Oh yes, I’ve always loved Lena Horne and Mary Wilson, too. I saw her at the Kennedy Center. And I’m a big Billie Holiday fan, ever since I saw ‘Lady Sings the Blues.’”

“Starring?”
“Diana Ross!”

It is startlingly ironic that Lashell’s mother missed seeing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech at Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963, “because my grandparents wouldn’t let her go,” she said.

“They were worried; they didn’t think it would be safe.”

Perceptions have changed; we’ve come a long way, presumably.

As we rose to leave the New Deal Café, Lashell recognized another coffee drinker, George Krieger.

Lashell: “Hello! I’m Matthew’s mother. Basketball, remember?”

George: “Oh yes, he played with Dan (grandson).”

Lashell: “Is Joyce still wearing those wonderful hats?”

George: “Of course!”

WASHINGTON continued from page 1

biggest wish is to help find a way to expand cultural diversity among Greenbelt’s active community of volunteers.

He’s learned a lot about diversity – and the lack of it – firsthand. When Washington first moved into Charlestowne North in Greenbelt in the late 1980s, he was the only African American in the high-rise building. As people from Africa, El Salvador, India and China began to move into the city, though, he realized the difference between what he calls “color diversity” and “cultural diversity.”

He had a closer look at these issues more than a decade ago, when he attended a Washington family reunion on the Eastern Shore – organized to explore the link with George Washington. “There were hundreds of people and there I was – a black man

who identified with “Roots” and African kings – and instead my relatives included Caucasians and Blackfoot Indians and members of other tribes in Maryland.

“My hope is that one day Greenbelt will have a reunion as colorful as mine,” he said.

What’s next for Darrin Washington? Right now, he’s focused on serious medical challenges facing his wife and his mother and caring for his daughters Madison, 2, and Kennedy, 4 months. “They were purposely named after U.S. presidents, he said, “I am attempting to raise the first African American woman president. Yes, right here in Greenbelt, Maryland. Wish me luck . . .”

But in the future – maybe a “run for City Council,” he says, then is quick to qualify: “Not in the near future.”



Senior Softballers Seek Newcomers

The Greenbelters of the Baltimore Beltway Senior Softball League invite newcomers to try-out for this year's team. Come to spring training from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Greenbelt Youth Center Gym/Braden Field from March 1 until the 46-game season starts in late April. It's followed by play-offs in August. Men must be 60 or older, women at least 55.

Contact Manager George Harrison at gharrisonsr@verizon.net or 301-538-3636 or Assistant Manager Jasper Pendergrass at 301-248-8462.

The Greenbelters won their division playoffs the last two years. Visit <http://www.baltimorese-niorssoftball.com/teampage/greenbelt/greenbelt.htm> for details.

Gain Economic Info At ERHS Feb. 29

Business owners interested in learning more about Prince George's County's \$50 million Economic Development Incentive Fund are invited to an information session on Wednesday, February 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS).

County Executive Rushern Baker will host the meeting and discuss the fund and its application process. Goals of the fund, with \$7 million earmarked for Fiscal Year 2012, include expansion of the county's commercial tax base, promotion of major development and redevelopment opportunities, transit-oriented development and more.

For details email edifund@pgcedc.com or call 301-583-4601.

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

who falls into a special category. There are added funds for certain grade levels, such as \$830 for example for each middle school level student. For each student with low academic performance in a school, the school budget will be increased by \$133.

For each student with high academic performance, a school will receive an added \$91. Schools with children at the poverty level who qualify for the Free and Reduced Meals Program will be allocated another \$94 per child. Money will also be allocated for each child who is an English language learner.

These additions will result in another \$500,000 being added to the Roosevelt budget. Greenbelt Middle School, preliminarily, will get an additional \$1.19 million over the base allocation.

Jacobs told council that the board did not want schools to be central office-driven. This budget process gives each school greater autonomy. She noted that money follows the students. If student population changes, then adjustments will have to be made.

Coleman noted there would be three opportunities, beginning in October, for interested persons to become involved in the process. This is an open budget process. Budget information is posted on the school system's website.

Greenbelt Mayor Judith Davis commented on the innovative budget process, asking if other jurisdictions were doing it. She was told that about five other major jurisdictions are doing student-based budgeting, including Houston and San Francisco.

Johnson considered this a better way of allocating funds. "One size doesn't fit all," she said. It will be a better way to measure teacher effectiveness, she thought.

Jordan, however, expressed concern that Roosevelt might not do as well under this process.

High School Reform

The school system will be offering greater opportunities for high school students to choose specialized studies through the creation of academies. County high schools will be grouped in clusters of three to four schools. Within a cluster a variety of special academies will be offered, distributed among the various schools in the cluster.

Every student will have the opportunity to enroll in a special academy of his or her choice at a nearby school. It will take several years for this program to be fully implemented, however. Roosevelt will continue to have science and technology. Parkdale will have a foreign language academy.

Davis thought there could be a downside to this program in students having to choose another high school to go to in order to get courses they are interested in.

Nutrition, Activity

School representatives also discussed changes to promote better health among students. Johnson said there will no longer be "silent lunch" periods. "You don't punish students" while they are eating their lunches, she said. Lunch menus will feature more whole-grain foods, soups, salads and foods with reduced sugar.

She thought the school board

★★★★★

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10am – 4pm
Third Saturday every month, 10am–1pm
Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

REVERIE
JAZZ TRIO



**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 18
2012
8-11 PM**

**COME
CELEBRATE
GREENBELT'S
75TH
ANNIVERSARY!**

NEW DEAL CAFE
Greenbelt, MD



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Prices Effective: FEBRUARY

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Greenbelt

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Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chicken	88¢ lb.	Red Ripe Strawberries 1 lb. package	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Minute Maid Orange Juice Assorted 64 oz.	\$2 ⁵⁰	Healthy Choice Assorted Entrees 8-9.9 oz.	\$2 ²⁵	Fresh Catch Tilapia Fillets	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.
Fresh Value Pack Chicken Thighs & Drumsticks	99¢ lb.	Fresh Crop Potatoes White/Russett 5 lb. bag	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	La Yogurt Yogurt Assorted 5-6 oz.	40¢	Green Giant Vegetables Boxed Reg./Simply Steam	\$1 ²⁵	Louis Kemp Seafood Delights Asst. 8 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE
Fresh Value Pack Porterhouse/T-Bone Steaks	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Crisp Iceberg Lettuce head	\$1 ⁵⁰	Shurfine Margarine Quarters 1 lb.	99¢	Ellio's Large Pizza Assorted 14-20 oz.	\$2 ⁹⁹	Baltimore Crab Cakes 5 pack	\$5 ⁰⁰
Grocery Bargains						Grocery Bargains			
Hunt's Spaghetti Sauces Asst. 24 oz.	\$1 ⁰⁰	Shurfine Pasta Assorted 12-16 oz.	\$1 ⁰⁰			Lipton/Knorr Noodles or Rice in Sauce Assorted 3.8-6 oz.	\$1 ⁰⁰	Bumble Bee Chunk Light Tuna 5 oz.	88¢
Shurfine Orig. Soup Ch. Noodle/Tomato 10-11 oz.	50¢	Arm & Hammer Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE			Thomas N.Y. Style Bagels Assorted 18-22 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Shurfine Plastic Food Wrap 100 sq. ft.	99¢
Deli		Bakery		Natural & Gourmet		Health & Beauty		Beer & Wine	
Deli Gourmet Brown Sugar Ham	\$4 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Store Baked Hot Cross Buns 6 pack	\$2 ⁴⁹	Looza Gourmet Fruit Juices Assorted 33.8 oz.	\$2 ⁹⁹	Eagle Value Pack Toothbrushes 3 pk.	99¢	Yuengling Beers 6 pk. – 12 oz. cans	\$5 ¹⁹
Deli Gourmet Mini Colby Longhorn Cheese	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Store Baked White Bread loaf	\$1 ⁴⁹	Thai Kitchen Noodle Cart Asian Entrees Asst. 9.7 oz.	\$2 ⁹⁹	Slim Fast Ready to Drink Shakes 4 pk.	\$5 ⁹⁹	Gabbiano Wines 750 ML	\$7 ⁶⁹

Check out our **best buy \$avings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments.

We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad flier inserted in your News Review.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department,
<http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame
to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robberies

February 4, 1:33 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Two men approached a person, displayed a handgun and demanded the person's property. They are described as black males, 18 to 25 years old, 5'8" to 6'0" tall, 150 to 200 pounds, wearing black clothing.

February 8, 4:23 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A person was approached by a man who displayed a handgun and demanded money. The robber is described as a male wearing a ski mask and Army fatigues.

Drug Arrests

February 1, 6:38 p.m., Northway Ball Fields. Two 19-year-old male Greenbelt residents were arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. They were released on a citation pending trial.

February 3, 10:12 p.m., 7500 block Mandan Road. A 23-year-old Capitol Heights man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

DWI/DUI

February 5, 5:38 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A 42-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related violations after a traffic stop. He was released on citations pending trial.

Trespassing

February 3, 4:54 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Drive. A 28-year-old Upper Marlboro man was arrested and charged with trespassing on private property. He was transferred to the Department

of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 4, 11:02 p.m., 7500 block Mandan Road. A 25-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with trespassing on private property. He was released on citation pending trial.

Disorderly Conduct

February 4, 1:04 a.m., 7200 block Hanover Drive. A 29-year-old Lanham man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

February 8, 11:50 p.m., TGI Friday's. A 42-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

Burglaries

February 2, 7:05 p.m., 7100 block Lake Drive. Jewelry was taken.

February 2, 10:20 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. Electronics were taken.

February 4, 1:17 a.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. An attempted burglary occurred.

February 6, 1:14 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

February 7, 3:07 a.m., 9000 block Breezewood Terrace. An attempted burglary occurred.

February 8, 7:34 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. Electronics were taken.

February 8, 8:04 a.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. Equipment was taken from a storage unit.

February 8, 8:45 a.m., 7200 block Mandan Road. Nothing was taken.

Vandalism

February 8, 12:16 a.m., 7900

K-9 Tracker IDs Local Suspects

Around 10 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8 Greenbelt police officers with K-9 accompaniment responded to a report of a robbery in the 6000 block of Cherrywood Court.

The K-9 officer initiated tracking for the suspects, with handler and dog locating the suspects a few blocks from the scene of the robbery. Jaquawn Emanuel Giovanni King, 19, and Charles Williams Johnson, Jr., 20, of the 5900 block of Cherrywood Lane were arrested and charged with armed robbery, strong armed robbery and first degree assault, among other charges. Both were turned over to the Department of Corrections in Hyattsville for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

block Good Luck Road. A window was broken.

February 8, 9:58 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. Windows were broken.

Vehicle Crime

Two vehicles were stolen, a green Kawasaki motorcycle with MD tags from the 8100 block Bird Lane and a yellow and black 2002 Yamaha motorcycle with DC tags from 9 court Southway.

A 1991 Buick LeSabre taken from the Unit block Southway was recovered by the Prince George's County Police. No arrests were made.

Thefts from autos were reported in the 9 court Southway (tools) and in the 9100 block Breezewood Court (lug nuts).

Goddard's Music & Drama Club presents
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Choice of Entrée

Lamb Shank braised in an ale reduction
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Top with Shrimp for \$4.00 more
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All Non Pasta Dishes are served with your choice of mashed potatoes
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The Finishing Touch

Please choose one of the following desserts:
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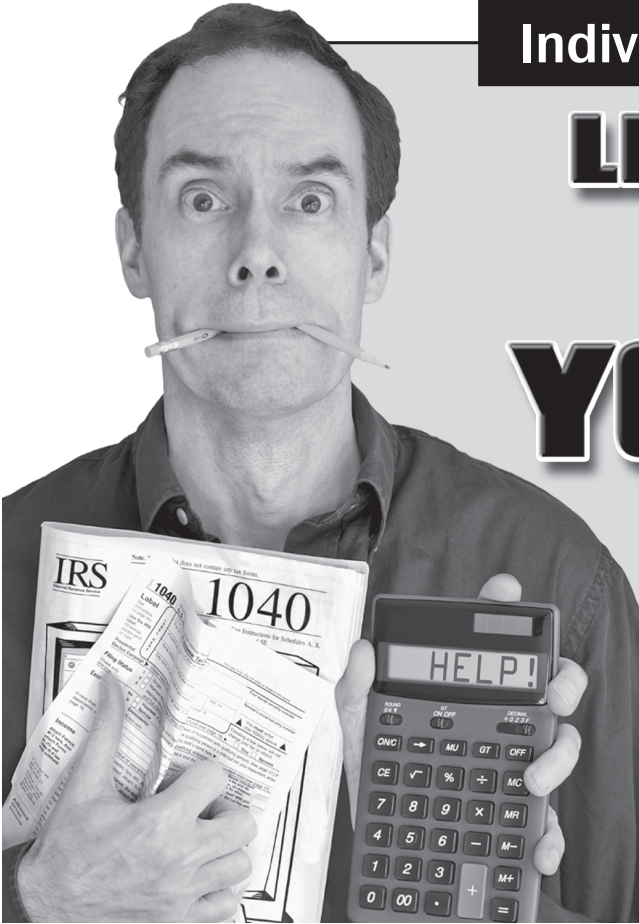
Located inside the Greenbelt Marriott Hotel
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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000
for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes
reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS.
People may anonymously report suspected drug activity
by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

Next Reel & Meal Is Dirt, the Movie

The next in the monthly Reel and Meal at the New Deal free film series is "Dirt! The Movie," to be shown on Monday, February 20 at 7 p.m. at the New Deal Café in Roosevelt Center. Sponsored by the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group, the discussion afterward will be led by Greenbelter Dr. Michel Cavagelli, who works at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. A vegan buffet is available for purchase at 6:30 p.m.

"Dirt! The Movie" was produced by Bill Benenson and Gene Rosow and is narrated by Jamie Lee Curtis. It shows where dirt originates, then how it functions, followed by how humans have made it difficult for dirt to do its thing. At the end of the film there's a section showing how people have changed their relation to dirt and are now giving it the respect it deserves. The result is beneficial to the earth and to humans and other creatures who live here.



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ZHANG

continued from page 1

follow the model of the FSA photographers, Zhang said, and thus inspire him similarly.

City’s 75th Anniversary
The fact that 2012 is Greenbelt’s 75th anniversary encouraged Zhang to take advantage of the opportunity and execute his plan. He intends to post pictures about activities planned for the anniversary year.

Despite having lived here only since December 2010, Zhang praised Greenbelt as a “unique community,” speaking highly of the old part of the city. He cited especially the ability to walk to other houses or the town center without dealing with major roads as a nice design touch encouraging interaction and leisure.

Zhang was born in China and came to the U.S. for school. Although he has lived in this country for a large portion of his life, he said he looks at things from an outsider’s perspective because he did not grow up here. He said he is “always curious about American lives.”

“By the end of the year, I want to be able to show these photos to show others a sense of what an American small town is like in the 21st century,” Zhang said.

Zhang also pointed out that a project like this could be as interesting to people in the future as photographs from the era of the FSA project are to people like him today.

Although the FSA photography has strongly influenced Zhang, he has no interest in replicating the project too closely, he said, because he wants to portray Greenbelt as it is in 2012. He does not plan to post any photos in black and white. Because he believes that blogs are the go-to form of communication in this day and age, Zhang embraced that medium for his project. He appreciates in particular the interactivity made possible by instant feedback from readers.

Complete Picture
Of his posts thus far, Zhang considers the one about the January 9 city council meeting to best illustrate the mission of his blog. By documenting the meeting from the Pledge of Allegiance to adjournment, he got a sense of the issues facing Greenbelt at that one point in time – the controversial, the mundane and everything in between.

In order to “paint a more complete picture,” Zhang said he included information not traditionally picked up by media outlets in order to document the “more neglected stuff.”

Moving forward, Zhang plans on scheduling more interviews in order to post about individual lives in Greenbelt. He said he is open to letting other people help with his project but stressed that he must make sure the style is consistent.

Zhang said he felt “this town is worthy of studying” and he hopes to match the bar set by those who have inspired him. He hopes his blog could allow people unfamiliar with Greenbelt to understand what everyday life here is like in this day and age.

Smell Gas?
(Sulfur or rotten eggs)
Call Washington Gas Light
800-752-7520 or 911

Golden Age Club
by Bunny Fitzgerald
The Golden Age Club is very pleased to welcome new members to the club and greeted two new members at the last meeting. This is what the club needs – new faces and new ideas.

We need to correct a mistake in the letter members received stating a wrong date for the Anniversary Luncheon. The correct date is Thursday, April 19 at the College Park Holiday Inn. Sorry about the wrong information in the letter!

Thanks to Tom Moran for giving club members information on income taxes and reminding everyone to make reservations to have our taxes done by calling GIVES. This year AARP is doing taxes at the American Legion Post and the fire house in Greenbelt.

We’ll play bingo at the February 22 meeting. On February 29 Bob Lindley will tell us about the history of the Civil War.

Just a reminder that dues must be paid before the Anniversary Luncheon. Come to meetings and bring a friend. Remember, sharing is caring.

Café Celebrates 75 Years with 30s Jazz
On Saturday, February 18 at 8 p.m. the Reverie Jazz Trio starts off the New Deal Café’s year-long celebration of Greenbelt’s 75th Anniversary with the first of its 1930s themed performances.

The Reverie Jazz Trio performs early jazz and blues standards, evoking the style and grace of that bygone era. The group features songs associated with local legends such as Duke Ellington and also talks about the role of early jazz in the history of the D.C. area.

This is the first in a series of free concerts at the New Deal Café that will celebrate the musical heritage of the 1930s. Friday, March 9 at 8 p.m., the Hot Club of D.C. will bring jazz to the Café; on Sunday, March 11 a Woody Guthrie Tribute with Don Walters will celebrate the folk music traditions of the era from 5 to 8 p.m. The series of celebratory concerts is sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts.

Belair Remembers Fibber and Molly
Belair Mansion in Bowie will be the site of a special program on Saturday, February 18 at 2 p.m. 79 Wistful Vista: Fibber McGee and Molly’s Years in Radio will be presented by the Radio History Society’s Brian Belanger and Ed Walker. They will recall one of the most delightful programs in broadcast history.

This program is free but donations will be accepted. Call 301-390-1020 for more information. The snow date is February 25.



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Dental implants are placed in the jaw where they fuse to the bone. They are effective for restoration of a single missing tooth or multiple missing teeth. In the past, dentists relied on procedures that were often temporary measures to repair badly damaged teeth. Now, in many cases, implants restored with crowns will last longer and cost less than ongoing repair efforts.

When you lose a tooth, your jawbone gradually loses strength and firmness. This leads to bone loss and can even cause changes in facial features. The loss of just one tooth can cause uneven chewing and an unstable bite. The remaining teeth shift and proper cleaning becomes more difficult. A misaligned bite can also contribute jaw joint dysfunction and headaches. Unlike a denture or bridge, a dental implant can prevent bone loss at the site of the missing tooth.

Many patients tell us that having a dental implant placed is more comfortable than they expected. Unlike teeth, the jaw bone does not have nerves. The type and density of bone varies from patient to patient and even within different locations in the same patient’s jaw. Bone density will determine whether the dental implant can be restored immediately, or whether the implant needs to “sleep” and strengthen for several months before use. Allowing an implant to “sleep” and fuse to the jaw bone significantly adds to its strength.

There are advantages to having a properly trained general dentist place your implant. A general dentist will be restoring the implant and can determine

the type and size implant that is most suitable as well as optimal position for later restoration. When the implant is placed and restored by the same dentist, there are fewer visits to the dentist which results in lower cost and greater convenience for the dental patient. Many patients are pleasantly surprised that the cost of dental implants is much lower than they expected. If you are missing teeth, visit a properly trained dentist to learn how dental implants can improve the health of your smile.



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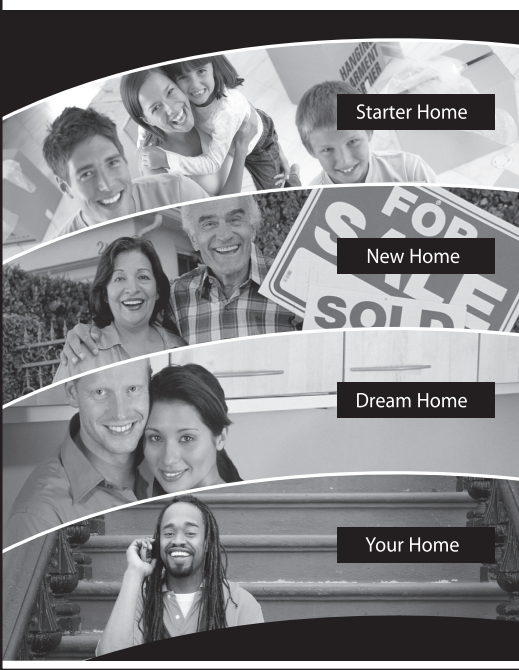
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Writers Group Meets Friday

The Greenbelt Writers Group will meet Friday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. Meetings are held every third Friday.

This month the group will discuss ideas for a project to help celebrate the city's 75th birthday. Open readings are always held.

For more information email Matt at mparbach@verizon.net or drop in for the meeting. All are welcome.

Saturday Bird Walk Offered in Bowie

Prince George's Audubon Society will host its monthly half-day bird walk at Governor Bridge Natural Area, Governor Bridge Road in Bowie on Saturday, February 18 at 7:30 a.m. At this time of year, waterfowl and resident and migrating woodland and field birds may be seen, with a good chance of spotting raptor flyovers at this Patuxent River forested floodplain. Beginners and experts are welcome. Waterproof footwear and binoculars are suggested; meet at the parking lot. There is no fee. For more information call 410-765-6482.

Nat'l Gallery Hosts French Cabaret

On Wednesday, February 22 at 12:10 p.m. the National Gallery of Art is the site for a performance by Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano, and Betty Bullock, pianist, playing 19th-century French cabaret music. This free concert will be held in the East Garden Court.

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ACE Members Receive Update on Local Schools

by Mary Moien

The Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) held its yearly meeting with school principals on Tuesday, January 24. Most principals participated, including Monica Gaines, Greenbelt Elementary School; Phyllis Gillens, Magnolia Elementary; Ann Swann, vice-principal of Springhill Lake Elementary; Warren Tweedy, Greenbelt Middle School; and Reginald McNeill, Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Turning Point Academy Public Charter School was the only school not represented.

Jon Gardner is the ACE chair, Leta Mach is council liaison and Wendy Wexler is the city staff liaison. A little celebration was held in her honor as this was Wexler’s final meeting prior to her retirement.

Greenbelt Middle

The status of the new Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) was the first topic. Principal Tweedy said he had recently met with the architect, who had said there is not a school building to compare with it in the whole state. It is a “green LEED” building and will be state-of-the-art.

The school was built for 1,089 students and 946 are expected when it opens next August. The building should be completed by July 15.

Tweedy said he expects more students once parents see the facility. He wondered if it might open already needing temporary classrooms. The northern area middle school TAG program will be located at GMS.

Tweedy is concerned that Breezewood Drive will not be wide enough to handle buses and the many students who walk to the school from nearby apartments. Mach will bring that concern to the council’s attention, she said.

Middle school no longer has shop and family and consumer (home economics) classes. Instead there will be graphic design classes and Tweedy commented that the school is working with staff from the B. Smith’s Union Station restaurant to learn about hospitality and food preparation.

Sixth Graders Move

More sixth graders will be moving to GMS next fall. The Springhill Lake sixth graders have been at the middle school for

several years. Next fall Greenbelt Elementary and Berwyn Elementary sixth graders will also move to the school. Principal Gillens said that Magnolia sixth graders were on the list but had been “dropped off.”

ACE member Susan Breon asked how the elementary schools will be affected by losing their sixth graders. The Greenbelt Elementary (GES) principal indicated that her school will have a little more room. A science lab had been converted into a classroom, she said, and could now become a lab again.

She was asked what would become of the sixth grade teachers. Gaines said that teachers might have some choices depending on what grades or subjects they were certified for. GMS will have a need for TAG and sixth grade teachers. There was agreement on the high quality of the current GES sixth grade teachers.

Gaines commented later that GES would be affected from a budget point of view. Schools are allocated a certain amount of money per pupil and sixth graders get a little more money per pupil. There will be less money coming to the school when the sixth graders leave.

There was some discussion and uncertainty about whether elementary TAG students would follow the TAG program into GMS. These TAG students would be coming from elementary schools all over the northern county area. Some students, however, may decide to drop out of TAG and go instead to their neighborhood middle school.

Tweedy commented that middle school is more structured than high school. Students are grouped by grade, staying with their peer groups for most of their classes.

Budgeting

The committee asked if school-based budgeting was really a budget cut in disguise, since funds are limited. Gillens described how the process might work, using Magnolia Elementary as an example.

The school-based budget committee would look at instructional needs, look at teacher and other positions and try to be creative, she said. They would try to decide if it would be better to have one more teacher and have smaller classes or to use funds to hire a para-professional. Decisions are difficult to make, she added.

Principal McNeill at Roosevelt

described how some positions are “locked” and cannot be changed but there is some flexibility with certain positions. He says his concentration is on staff and that the school tries to be creative in areas such as supplies.

Several schools mentioned the high cost of supplies, including paper. In response to a question, McNeill indicated that the Italian language program is remaining at ERHS but that cuts in ROTC are expected.

GES Tech Needs

Principal Gaines commented about a real need for upgraded technology at GES. The school is not a Title I school, so does not qualify for additional funding. GES needs more computers, smart boards and projectors, she said, and cannot compete with schools that get the extra funds.

Students that move and come to GES are surprised to see all classes using only regular blackboards and not smart boards. The school is working with the PTA and planning to apply for some grant funding, she added. Gaines said she was unsure of the exact amount of money needed to improve technology in the school.

Magnolia Elementary

Principal Gillens described participation in the ACE Science

Club and the Robotics Club. Magnolia’s Robotics Club was the only elementary school in the county to participate recently in competitions at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She said the club requires a strong commitment from parents, teachers and students but that students learn core values about studying, not just about how to build a robot.

GMS Activities

Principal Tweedy described new activities at the school to emphasize community service for students, both local and global. They are trying to work with Franklin Park apartments but to date have had little response.

There is a new Haitian teacher, he said, and students have become involved with assistance to a Haitian orphanage. The principal wants his students to understand how little some children and families have in Haiti.

New ACE member Elsie Waynes commented on how successful Red Cross programs were at the schools where she had taught in D.C.

Tweedy then mentioned a relatively new group, “Distinguished Gentlemen of Greenbelt.” He said they will work with students at Springhill Lake Elementary.

Astronomy Club Salutes 1937 Sky

All are invited to join the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt on Thursday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Howard B. Owens Science Center to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the City of Greenbelt. The program will consist of a series of brief vignettes describing astronomical events which occurred 75 years ago. Topics include the birth of radio astronomy, stories about Robert Goddard and the status of rocketry in 1937 and other topics of interest from that era.

The Howard B. Owens Science Center is at 9601 Greenbelt Road adjacent to DuVal High School. In the event that the Prince George’s County public schools are closed, the event will be rescheduled.

Kids Open Microphone At New Deal Sunday

A Kids Open Microphone session at the New Deal Café on Sunday, February 19 will run from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. It is held on the third Sunday of every month. Children up to age 17 are invited to play a musical instrument, sing, dance, juggle, recite a poem or otherwise perform.

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